और विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन और खाद्य और औषधि प्रशासन द्वारा निर्धारित गुणवत्ता और मानकों के आधार पर उनकी जांच की जाती हैं। मिलावटी नमूनों के मामले में वेंडरों/आपूर्तिकर्ताओं के विरूद्व विभागीय और कानूनी कार्रवाई की जाती है। इसके अतिरिक्त, वणिज्यिक और चिकित्सा अधिकारियों द्वारा स्थैतिक और चल खानपान इकाइयों की नियमित जांचे/निरीक्षण किए जा रहे हैं।

Payment of Bonus to Group-B Gazetted Railway Staff

1534. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of Group-B Non-Gazetted staff drawing the scale of Rs. 6500-10500 (RS) and Rs. 7500-11500 (RS) are working as subordinates to Group-B Gazetted, designated as Section Officers in the Ministry;

(b) whether such subordinate staff have also been paid productivity linked bonus during current calender year, besides payment of allowances at par with Group-B Gazetted;

(c) whether such situation is a total humiliation to Group-B Gazetted officials and a mockery of the administration when one group has limited duties and the other has vast supervision duties; and

(d) whether Government propose to grant Group-B Gazetted officials some higher Scale to keep parity in view of part (c) above.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (d) In the Ministry of Railways the Group 'B',gazetted officers designated as 'Section Officers' are the officers of Railway Board Secretariat Service (RBSS). The present scale of pay of Section Officers of RBSS is Rs. 6500-10500. In Railway Board there are some Group 'C posts of Technical Assistants in scale Rs. 6500-10500 (RS), which are ex-cadre posts for RBSS. There is no post in scale Rs. 7500-11500 (RS) in the Ministry of Railways.

As per the present policy, all gazetted officers, including Group 'B' gazetted officers of the Railways and Railway Board are excluded from the purview of the grant of Productivity Linked Bonus. All non-gazetted employees, inlcuding Group 'B' non-gazetted staff of Railway Board are entitled to the Productivity Linked Bonus. All allowances like HRA, CCA etc., payable to the staff, are normally related to the pay scales of the employees.

Under the hierarchical system in the Railways, the non-gazetted employees function under the gazetted officers. This is a normal set up and in keeping with the policy of the Government and there is no humiliation or shame involved in this because the gazetted officers enjoy the 'Gazetted' status.

The pay scales granted to various categories of staff/officers, non-gazetted/ gazetted are commensurate with the pay scales as accepted by the Government on the basis of the Vth Pay Commission's recommendations. No change in the existing pay scale of Group 'B' gazetted Section Officers is being contemplated at present.

Conversion of Ahmedabad-Delhi Meter Gauge line

1535. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any plans to convert the Ahmedabad-Delhi Meter gauge line into Broad gauge in the near future;

(b) if so, the details of funds allocated for the purpose during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are aware that

some portion is still single lane; if so, whether Government have any plan to make it double lane; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and by when it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Ahmedabad-Delhi MG line has already been converted into the broad gauge.

(b) The 8th Five Year Plan was over on 31.3.1997. The funds allocated for this work during the 8th Five Year Plan was Rs. 584.48 crs.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) A survery for doubling of this line has been taken up and is expected to be completed by December, 1999. Further consideration of the project would be possible once the survey report becomes available.

New Railway Zonal Headquarters at Bilaspur

1536. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have, of late, decided to set up a new Railway Zonal headquarter at Bilaspur, in compliance with the pressing demand of the people of Chattisgarh region;

(b) if so, the details of the infrastructure to be created for the purpose and the cost thereof; and

(c) the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details and cost of the infrastructure have not been worked out so far.

(c) Government have decided to set up a new Railway Zone with headquarters at Bilaspur. Its inaugural function has been held on 20.9.1989. An Officer-on-Special Duty has been posted at Bilaspur. Sanction has also been accorded to the creation of 41 workcharged posts for different departments.

Railway line from Delhi to Tashkent

1537. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for a rail line from Delhi to Tashkent is pending in the Ministry;

(b) if not, whether the Ministry purpose to consider such proposed in future;

(c) to what extent such a rail line would help trade with Central Asian and other countries; and

(d) the impendiments blocking such a proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION. (SHRI RAM NAIK): (A) No Sir.

(b) The Ministry is not empowered to consider such a project as it has international involvements.

(c) and (d) Details regarding benefits and impediments will be available only after a detailed study.

Conversion of Rajkot-Junagarh-Veraval and Gandhidham-Bhuj rail lines

1538. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: